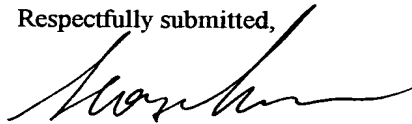


Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461

6. ☒ Priority of foreign application(s) No. 8-279389 filed October 22, 1996 in Japan is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 and/or §365(b).
- ☒ The certified copy was filed in prior Application No. PCT/JP97/03802.
- ☐ A certified copy of the above foreign application(s) is filed herewith.
7. ☐ Priority of U.S. Provisional Application(s) No. _____ filed _____ is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119. (A Preliminary Amendment is attached to reflect the claim of benefit in the specification if not already present.)
8. ☒ The prior application is assigned of record to Seiko Epson Corporation, Tokyo, Japan and recorded at Reel 009484, Frame 0230.
9. ☐ This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application (37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)(1)). Delete the following inventor(s) named in the prior application:
- _____
- _____
10. ☒ A Preliminary Amendment is attached. The Preliminary Amendment amends the specification to reflect the continuation data. Claims added by this Amendment are properly numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claim in the application and claims canceled are identified in the listing of claims.
11. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement is attached.
12. ☐ Small entity status:
- ☐ a. Entitlement to small entity status is asserted.
- ☐ b. Small entity status is no longer claimed.
13. ☐ Other: _____
14. ☐ This application is NOT to be published under 35 U.S.C. 112(b). The undersigned attorney or agent hereby certifies that the invention disclosed in this application has not been and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.
15. ☒ The power of attorney in the application is to James A. Oliff, Registration No. 27,075, William P. Berridge, Registration No. 30,024, Kirk M. Hudson, Registration No. 27,562, Thomas J. Pardini, Registration No. 30,411, Edward P. Walker, Registration No. 31,450, Robert A. Miller, Registration No. 32,771, Mario A. Costantino, Registration No. 33,565, Stephen J. Roe, Registration No. 34,463, Joel S. Armstrong, Registration No. 36,430, Christopher W. Brown, Registration No. 38,025, Richard E. Rice, Registration No. 31,560, Paul Tsou, Registration No. 37,956, and/or Eric D. Morehouse, Registration No. 38,565.
- ☒ a. The power appears in the attached Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- ☐ b. Since the power does not appear in the attached Declaration and Power of Attorney, a substitute Power of Attorney is also attached.
16. ☒ Address all future communications to:

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

George P. Simion
Registration No. 47,089

JAO:GPS/dmw